

5 **METAL SALT ACTIVATORS FOR USE IN LEUCO DYE COMPOSITIONS**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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Compositions and methods for production of color images using leuco dye-containing color forming compositions are described. The color forming composition can include a color forming leuco dye, a metal salt activator, a suppression agent configured for inhibiting the activity of the metal salt activator until application of energy in the form of heat or light, and an initiator precursor. The initiator precursor is capable of liberating scavenger species which reduce the inhibiting action of the suppression agent. The color forming compositions can be a single phase mixture of a leuco dye, metal salt activator, suppression agent, and initiator precursor which are stable under ambient conditions and form a colored composition upon application of energy.

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